
Subject: Re: Multidimensional arrays and CALL_EXTERNAL

Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Fri, 20 Jun 2008 18:24:59 GMT

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On Fri, 20 Jun 2008, Dan wrote:

> Hi everyone,
>
> Now that I have gotten CALL_EXTERNAL to work correctly, I am trying to
> figure out how IDL stores multidimensional arrays in memory. Since
> CALL_EXTERNAL passes an arrays by reference (pointer to the first
> element of the array), the multidimensional arrays in C act like a 1-D
> array. I have figured out how to access elements of a 2D array
> (array(i, j) ---> array[i + i_size * j]), but haven't been able to
> figure out how to access elements from a 4D array.
>
> For example, how would I access element:
> array(i, j, k, m) from the pointer in C?
>

I have never used CALL_EXTERNAL, but my guess is:

```
array(i, j, k, m) ---> array[i
                        + i_size * j
                        + i_size * j_size * k
                        + i_size * j_size * k_size * m]
```

regards,
lajos

Subject: Re: Multidimensional arrays and CALL_EXTERNAL

Posted by [Dan\[1\]](#) on Fri, 20 Jun 2008 19:36:03 GMT

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Hi Lajos,

This doesn't seem to be working for me.

Subject: Re: Multidimensional arrays and CALL_EXTERNAL

Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Fri, 20 Jun 2008 20:21:32 GMT

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On Fri, 20 Jun 2008, Dan wrote:

> Hi Lajos,

>
> This doesn't seem to be working for me.
>

Create a 4D array in IDL: `arr=lindgen(2,3,4,5)`. Pass this array to the C routine, and print the array elements in C. You will see the pattern.

regards,
lajos

Subject: Re: Multidimensional arrays and CALL_EXTERNAL
Posted by [Allan Whiteford](#) on Mon, 23 Jun 2008 12:15:34 GMT
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Dan wrote:
> Hi Lajos,
>
> This doesn't seem to be working for me.

Dan,

It works for me; as an example:

multi.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "idl_export.h"

void do_work(float *a)
{
    printf("%f\n",a[3+5*10+7*10*20+9*10*20*30]);
}
```

```
IDL_VPTR multi(int argc, IDL_VPTR argv[])
{
    do_work((float *) argv[0]);
}
```

multi.pro

```
pro multi
a=fltarr(10,20,30,40)
```

```
a[3,5,7,9]=3.14
```

```
junk=call_external('multi.so','multi',a,/unload)
end
```

Compile

```
gcc -I /usr/local/rsi/idl/external/include -shared multi.c -o multi.so
```

does the above work for you? Can you post an example of code which fails?

Thanks,

Allan
